

Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: ABC Learning Early Childhood Center	Enrollment: 135	License ID: 18849
Street: 15 Nightengale LN	City: Dubuque	IA Zip Code: 52003
County: Dubuque		
Mailing Address: 15 Nightengale LN		
Mailing City: Dubuque	IA Zip Code: 52003	
Director's Name: Melissa Donovan	Center Phone Number: 563-583-6654	
On-Site Supervisors: Genevieve Sorensen	E-Mail Address: rbirch1087@aol.com	

Date of Complaint: 08-28-2019 **Date of Visit:** 09-11-2019

Scheduled Unannounced NA

Non-Compliance with Regulations Found Compliance with Regulations Found NA

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended

PROVISIONAL license from _____ **to** _____

SUSPENSION of License

REVOCAION of License

Complaint Details:

Did this complaint result in a serious injury? Yes No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? Yes No

Summary of Complaint:

Staff Amanda S. has left children alone in the infant room in the mornings while she goes to the classroom next to the infant room or to the laundry room, prior to other staff arriving.

Staff Amanda may have come to work under the influence of marijuana one time. She was "really happy, hungry, and smelled like pot." This was pointed out to the employer, but she claimed she could not smell it.

There is no information that the children have been harmed.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.8(2)c Every child-occupied program room has adult supervision in the room.

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

Inspection Findings:

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The licensing consultant corresponded with the center owner/director on 8/29/19 regarding the report that infants were being left unsupervised in the program room. An unannounced visit to the center occurred on 9/11/19 to further discuss the reported concerns.

The evaluation of this concern revealed the following:

1. Melissa indicated that staff Amanda denied that she had left children alone in the room. Melissa stated she was only able to look back at the video surveillance for two days because of how the system works. Melissa stated she did not see Amanda leave the room but she did see Amanda in the doorway of the room with her back to the children, which Melissa stated was unacceptable.
2. Melissa stated she had previous concerns with staff Amanda including cell phone use, improving interactions with children, and leaving food out for which Melissa had set goals for Amanda.
3. Melissa made the decision to terminate Amanda's employment.
4. Melissa stated she was never told of the marijuana concern. It was determined that this had been reported to another staff who previously had a supervisory role at the center (no longer works at the center) but that this actually occurred at an evening gathering at the center that included the children and their parents.
5. Staff Rose indicated that she never witnessed Amanda leave the children unsupervised but that Amanda voluntarily told Rose that she (Amanda) would do this to go to the laundry room, etc. Rose stated this all came out the day that the licensing consultant contacted the center regarding this complaint.
6. Rose stated the general concerns she had spoken to Melissa about Amanda involved the same issues that Melissa indicated above. Rose stated Amanda never hurt any child that she knew of. Rose stated Melissa was working with Amanda on improvements.

Special Notes and Action Required:

The center IS cited for the following violation:

109.8(2)c Every child-occupied program room has adult supervision in the room.

There is enough information to indicate that the staff person did leave children unsupervised in the infant room on occasion. It is noted that the center director has already taken action including terminating the employment of this staff person at the center. Further, the center director states she also called an emergency staff meeting where she reviewed the center's handbook and expectations for ratio and supervision.

The center is NOT cited with regard to the following rule:

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

There is not information to indicate that the staff person cared for children while under the influence of marijuana.

There is nothing further requested from the center with regard to this report. The center administration shall continue to monitor staff to ensure compliance with the center's policies and procedures as well as licensing regulations.

Consultant's Signature:

Heidi Hungate

Date:

09-26-2019